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| REDACTED | Area G-G  OAG  Victoria Quay  Edinburgh EH6 6QQ  Date 22.04.16 |

Dear REDACTED

**Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your email of 23 March 2016 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You asked:

*‘1. (a) How many Judicial Review relating to Immigration matters (including challenges to refusals of Permission to Appeal by the Upper Tribunal) have been intimated to the Advocate General (either directly or through the Secretary of State for the Home Department) in terms of the new Rules of the Court of Session since 22nd September 2015.*

*(b) Of those intimated how many have had Answers lodged prior to Permission being granted and how many ‘not participating in the Permission Stage’ letters have been submitted to the Court.*

*2. Where an oral hearing has taken place in such cases what is the total average amount of time claimed for feeing purposes by Counsel for the Advocate General or Secretary of State, in respect of preparation and appearing at the Permission Hearing. ‘*

Having examined the information held by this office that may be relevant to your request I can confirm that we do hold some information that would fall within its terms.

With regard to question 1 (a) I can advise that since 22nd September 2015, 213 petitions for judicial review relating to immigration matters have been intimated to the Office of the Advocate General in terms of the new Rules of the Court of Session.

With regard to question 1 (b) I can advise that 4 ‘not participating in the permission stage’ letters have been issued. We do not hold information recording the number of petitions in which Answers were lodged prior to permission being granted. However we have recorded that 40 of the petitions received are no longer live and accordingly 173 are continuing. It is generally our practice to lodge Answers prior to permission being granted.

With regard to question 2, we do not hold average times claimed for feeing purposes by Counsel on permission hearings.

You may, if dissatisfied with the treatment of your request, ask the Office of the Advocate General to conduct an internal review of its decision.  The internal review will be conducted by someone other than the person who took the initial decision.  Requests for internal review should be addressed to the Information Officer, Office the Advocate General, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

If following the internal review you remain dissatisfied with the treatment of your request by OAG then you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner, whose address is Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.  Details of the complaints procedure can be found here:

<http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom_of_information.aspx>

Yours sincerely

REDACTED